GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RAILWAYS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:595
ANSWERED ON:16.08.2007
TOUTS` MENACE AT STATIONS
Nikhil Kumar Shri

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Railways are aware that a large number of touts are operating at various railway stations;

(b) if so, the number of touts apprehended during the last one year by the Railway Protection Force (RPF);

(c) whether any further strategies have been made by the Railways to get rid of touts at railway stations; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU)

(a) & (b): Yes, Sir. Due to joint efforts of Railway Protection Force(RPF), Vigilance and Commercial staff, 1015 touts have been apprehended over Indian Railways during the year 2006 and 655 touts upto June 2007 under the provisions of the Railways Act.

(c) & (d): The following measures are being taken to curb the menace of touts:-

a) RPF staff is deployed to keep surveillance over touts and other undesirable elements at reservation complexes to arrest them under the provisions of the Railways Act.

b) Special joint raids by RPF, Vigilance and Commercial staff are organized from time to time at vulnerable booking counters and reservation centres.

c) Intelligence machinery has been geared up to collect intelligence about the activities of touts at vulnerable places.

d) Regular announcements are made at Railway stations and reservation complexes to sensitize passengers against purchase of tickets from the touts or any unauthorized agents.